



## **WALK 11: RIVER BEAULY**

**Distance:** 7.8km

**Time:** 1 hour 30 minutes

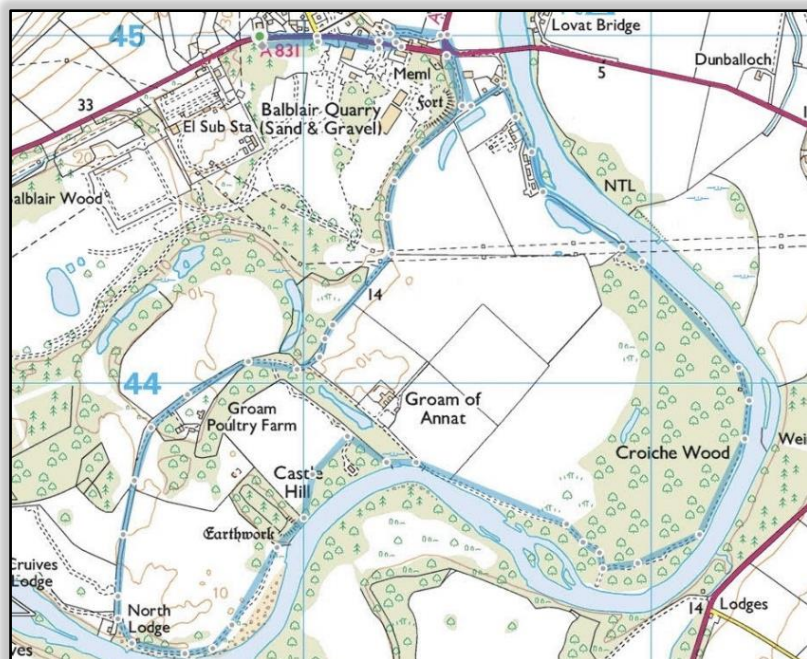
**Ascent:** 38m

**Map:** OS Explorer 431

**Terrain:** This walk consists of pleasant farm tracks and sections on tarred road

**Start Point:** Wester Balblair - 459501

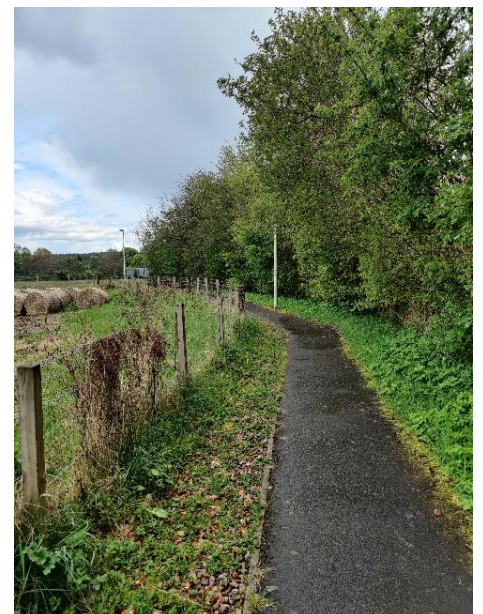
*The River Beauly walk is perhaps the best known and most popular walk in the area, and for good reason, it is a lovely circuit through the Lovat Estate enjoying idyllic views of the river and pleasant rural*



### **STEP 1**

Parking for this walk has become problematic in the last few years, with all close by options blocked off and no longer useable. However, the next best alternative is to park in the small hamlet of Wester Balblair, a few hundred metres up the A831 from the entrance to the Lovat Estate, where there are a few options for parking. To begin the walk, follow the pavement on the left side of the road heading out of Wester Balblair towards the Lovat Bridge. The pavement soon branches off the road and goes down a flight of steps, then follows the perimeter of a field before reaching the A862 road at a bus stop.

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## **STEP 2**

At the A862, turn right and take care to walk along the grass verge. Cross the road at the junction and head into the Lovat Estate. Follow the quiet minor road for just over 2km, ignoring a couple of turn offs on the left side. Once at the road end, turn left onto a track, going past a sign for 'Cruives Lodge'.



## **STEP 3**

A few hundred metres down the track, as it begins to bend towards the river to the right, turn off left onto a small path leading through some open ground and then into some pleasant woodland following the river. The path soon goes round the pink house of Lord Lovat and re-joins the river before crossing a small wooden bridge and joining a larger track.

## **STEP 4**

Follow the track running alongside the river, ignoring the one to the left. The track soon enters some woodland before once again re-joining the river and passing by a fishermen's lodge. Enjoy the lovely, pleasant scenery along the river for approximately 1.5km following the track, looking out for salmon fishermen and an occasional jumping Salmon.



## **STEP 5**

The Lovat Bridge soon becomes visible and the track goes past some houses on the left. At the junction just past the houses, turn left and follow the track for 100 metres to another junction with the small minor road where the walk started from. Turn right and retrace your steps carefully back over the road at the junction, back to the start in Wester Balblair.